



Bill Horn's

News and Reviews



5th District Supervisor, County of San Diego

Fall 2003

Horn to host Nov. 13 Transnet Tax Forum

On November 13, 2003, at 2 P.M., the public along with business and community leaders, transportation experts, representatives from the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), and elected officials, has been invited to the Pala Mesa Resort in Fallbrook. The event is a North County Public Transportation Forum: **THE TRANSNET SALES TAX-EXAMINING THE BENEFITS TO NORTH COUNTY.**

The meeting will focus on finding solutions for traffic congestion in North County and consider what has been gained for North County from the Transnet half-cent sales tax that has been in place since 1987.

Discussion will include potential benefits to North County if the tax is extended another 30 years and the future prospects of widening Highway 76 all the way to Interstate 15.

A poll will be taken to determine the transportation priorities for the public and elected officials. To access the poll, go to Supervisor Horn's County web site at:

www.co.san-diego.ca.us/cnty/bos/sup5. There will be a follow-up public forum on the results of the poll early next year. **PLEASE ATTEND THIS IMPORTANT EVENT** on November 13, 2003, 2 P.M., at Pala Mesa Resort, 2001 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook (Thomas Bros. 1028, G-5)



Supervisor Horn with deputies and CDF personnel in Valley Center while he was out on the fire lines.

New leadership in Sacramento, proven leadership at home

California taxpayers have revolted with a resounding message at the ballot box. They have demanded new vision and fiscal accountability from those at our State Capitol.

Now it's up to Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to make good on his promise to bring strong leadership to California. He pledged he would repeal the car tax, enact a constitutional spending cap, reform worker's compensation laws, reduce electricity rates, restructure the \$20 billion inherited debt, attack the \$8 billion spending gap by rooting out waste and corruption and cutting spending instead of raising taxes. He vowed to end the cycle of buying access to legislative and executive favors. In light of the political makeup of the legislature in Sacramento, that's a hefty challenge.

While we wait to see what happens in Sacramento, we move forward in North County. Part of that is recovering and

rebuilding from the disastrous fires that ravaged San Diego County. The scope of tragedy in human life and property damage is unparalleled in our County's history.

We have hope for recovery because the Board of Supervisors has maintained emergency financial reserves for times such as these. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you'll find details about the waiver of fees for permits that homeowners need to rebuild in the unincorporated portion of San Diego County. That will cost the County of San Diego at least \$2,000,000 from our emergency financial reserve.

While we reach out to fire victims and their families, we are seeing a renewed spirit of togetherness that defines us as Americans. On October 25, it was my honor to provide financial support for a parade honoring our heroes of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force (1MEF) from Camp Pendleton, commanded by Lieutenant General James T. Conway. It was thrilling to see thousands of people cheering when the troops



Supervisor Horn with Governor-elect Arnold Schwarzenegger.

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The recently installed bench at the bus stop near East Vista Way and Osborne Street in Vista.

Bus Shelters, Solar-Powered Lights and Trash Cans

Work is underway along many North County Transit District bus lines to install covered shelters with solar-powered lights at bus stops. The improvements came from a grant from CALTRANS and \$350,000 that Supervisor Horn designated from District 5's Community Projects Fund.

"If we encourage people to use public transportation, the least we can do is provide shelters along the bus routes," said Supervisor Horn. "This is part of our continuing commitment to make bus riders feel safer and more comfortable."

Also included in the upgrade are new concrete trashcans with plastic-domed lids at 46 bus stops in Bonsall and Fallbrook. EDCO, a private company has agreed to empty the trashcans without charge in return for a small placard on each can, recognizing their effort in keeping these communities clean.

Mexican Fruit Fly Quarantine Lifted

Valley Center's Mexican Fruit Fly Quarantine is over, less than a year after the first fly was detected. More than 76,000 traps were checked during the quarantine, which was conducted jointly by Federal, State and County agencies.

The quarantine covered 130 square miles and resulted in the destruction and burial of nearly 6.5 million pounds of fruit from larval properties. Citrus growers lost about \$3.5 million. Avocado losses were another \$3 million.

Supervisor Horn praised the work of County Agriculture Commissioner Kathleen Thuner and her staff, and thanked California's Food and

Agriculture Secretary, Bill Lyons.

"Secretary Lyons immediately came to Valley Center," Horn said. "He was responsible for the rapid response to the crisis. In record time, planes were in the air spraying pesticide. That quick action was remarkable and effective. It also allowed some of our fruit in the quarantine zone to be harvested."

For the first time in a California eradication program, the pesticide Spinosad was used. The product is a naturally occurring extract from bacteria and was cleared for use on organic crops. Left untreated, the Mexican Fruit Fly infestation would have threatened fruit crops worth more than \$75 million annually.

Internet Filters Now On All County Library Computers

On September 16, 2003, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the recommendation of Supervisors Bill Horn and Dianne Jacob to install filtering software on all County library computers. The action completes our desire to protect minors from accessing pornography on the Internet in County libraries. This letter typifies the public response:



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marched along Coast Highway in Oceanside.

The parade, organized by the City of Oceanside and the Oceanside Chamber of Commerce, was a fitting welcome home tribute to Marines who distinguished themselves in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The "can-do" spirit of Marines is seen in how the County of San Diego is

dedicated to serving the needs of the public. The way we do business continues to be recognized by others. Last summer, the National Association of Counties (NACO) awarded the County of San Diego 27 individual awards for excellence in government, 13 more than the previous year. Three NACO awards were for being "Best in Class."

As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, we have so many reasons to be a grateful nation. It begins with liberty. Freedom is the miracle that is America. Our prayers and heartfelt best wishes go to the families who have lost loved ones in defense of our nation and those who were caught in the path of our recent fires. God bless and keep the U.S.A. strong.

Investing in our own backyard:

Allocation of community projects funds in the fifth district

Included in \$690,610 of community projects funds, the following allocations were made in the Fifth District:

◆ \$363,133 for safety equipment, radios, station maintenance, roof repair, thermal imaging camera, rescue equipment and foam delivery equipment:

Volunteer fire departments at Palomar Mountain, DeLuz, Elfin Forest/Harmony Grove, Sunshine Summit, Montezuma Valley, San Pasqual, Warner Springs and Deer Springs Fire Protection District.

◆ \$105,487 for various projects - Reche Club of Fallbrook, Aqua Hedondia Lagoon Foundation, MainStreet Oceanside, North County Inland Prevention Program, Save Our Heritage Organization Warner Springs, North County Disabled Services, Fallbrook Music Society, Oceanside Women's Resource Center, Women's Resource Committee, North County Foster Parent Association, North County Serenity House, Valley Center Parks and Recreation District, "So Kids Can Dream" and Reins for scholarships for low income disabled

◆ \$60,000 for various projects -

Friends of the Borrego Springs Library, Friends of the Fallbrook Library, Rancho Santa Fe Library Guild, Friends of the Valley Center Library, Friends of the San Marcos Library and Friends of the Vista Library

◆ \$100,000 for various projects - the Boys & Girls Clubs of San Marcos, Oceanside, North County and Carlsbad and Vista

◆ \$25,000 to The Vision of Children Foundation for Ocular Albinism

◆ \$15,000 for direct entry gate - Flying Leather-neck Museum, Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar

◆ \$5,000 to the October 25

"Welcome Home to the Defenders of Freedom" parade for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force in Oceanside.



Young patriots!



In the spirit of Marines at Iwo Jima, Boy Scouts Dale Turori, Jason Crandall, Joseph Fletcher, John Turori and Tim Kellogg raise Old Glory along Valley Center Road.

--Photo courtesy of Scout Leader Mark Thornton

"Either we run government as the Founding Fathers intended we should or government runs us."
Ronald Reagan 1963

Good stuff from the fifth district!

◆ County agriculture continues to "grow." For the tenth consecutive year, agricultural value in San Diego County increased in value. The total for 2002 was nearly \$1.3 million. Nursery and flower crops account for \$879 million.

◆ The Valley Center History Museum, next to the Valley Center Library is now open. Step inside and growl at the 9-foot tall California grizzly bear, the largest grizzly ever killed in the state. Land and the building for the museum came from the County of San Diego. A \$250,000 donation from Valley Center residents Louis Wolfsheimer and Abbe Wolfsheimer Stuz completed the museum.

◆ The Highway 101 Museum at 631 South Coast Highway is now open

◆ Thirty WW II veterans had their stories recorded by the Rancho Santa Fe Historical Society for the D-Day Museum in New Orleans and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

◆ Jim Bathgate of Valley Center was named 2003 Farmer of the Year by the San Diego County Farm Bureau

◆ The Big Band Concert in Oceanside by Straight from the Heart raised \$7,000 for the North County Foster Parents Association.

Quilt, donations honor officer



Community support continues for the family of slain Oceanside Police Officer Tony Zeppetella. Employees from the County Health and Human Services Agency created a memorial quilt for the family. Messages of support and \$2,000 were presented to Oceanside Police Chief Michael Poehlman. Supervisor Horn, agency Deputy Director Nick Macchione, agency employees Annie Brown, Fame Channelle and her daughter Stanisha Channelle and Nina Constantino were at the presentation.



National recognition for Elfin Forest

Congratulations to Elfin Forest for its runner-up award in this year's America in Bloom competition. Elfin Forest was one of just two unincorporated communities and the smallest participating in the contest.

The national beautification contest involves community participation, environmental awareness, floral displays, turf and ground cover, urban forestry, tidiness, landscaped areas, and heritage preservation. Elfin Forest was among six finalists with fewer than 5,000 residents.

Elfin Forest was edged out by Lewes, Delaware and missed winning its category by only 24

points out of a possible 900. Judges commented that Elfin Forest had the highest quality of art and gardens of all the cities they visited. Perhaps no other community in the contest had such a dramatic turnaround than Elfin Forest, which rose



from the ashes following an 8,500-acre wild fire seven years ago.

Judges were especially impressed with a fire-safe garden at the Elfin Forest Fire Department, created and maintained by retired firefighter Nils Lunnderdal. Others involved in the competition were Town Council Members Eric Anderson and Evelyn Alemanni.

The Town Council and Olivehain Municipal Water District split the \$500 entry fee. This is a great way to show America that Elfin Forest is "pretty" fantastic.



Help for Fire Victims

Supervisor Horn and the Board of Supervisors waived fees for rebuilding homes and other legal structures destroyed in the fires in unincorporated areas. The following phone numbers and web addresses offer immediate help to people affected by the fires:

◆ County Department of Trade and Business Development: Toll free (866) 402-6044 or (858) 495-5494, (Building Information):

www.sdbusinessassistance.org

◆ County Assessor's Office: (760) 940-6868, for tax relief claim forms:

www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/cntydepts/general/assessor

◆ Supervisor Horn: (619) 531-5555,

www.sdcounty.ca.gov/cnty/bos/sup5

◆ County of San Diego: www.sdcounty.ca.gov
(Click on: San Diego County Wildfires 2003)

Supervisor BILL HORN

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